Performance Results System (PRS)
FY 2005-2006 Field Performance Business Definitions for South Carolina

Updated 11/17/2005
KMM

Conservation plans for cropland written, acres

Definition: Acres of cropland and hayland for which conservation plans were developed or significantly revised during the fiscal year to treat soil, water, air, plant, and animal resource concerns.

Cropland – All lands used for the production of crops, including

> **Cropland** – Land used primarily for the production of row crops, small-grain crops, nursery crops, and other specialty crops, either alone or in association with sod crops; and land used for the production of crops not requiring cultivation, including orchards.
> **Hayland** – Land on which perennial plants are managed and harvested for hay. (Annual plants planted for hay and forage crops in short-term rotation are considered cropland.)

Purpose

This performance measure permits NRCS and its conservation partners to report for each fiscal year:

- the acres of cropland and hayland on which the agency and its conservation partners provided assistance in developing or significantly revising a conservation plan,
- the number of customers, by race, gender, ethnicity, and disability, assisted on cropland and hayland with conservation planning, and
- the conservation program(s) used in conservation planning of cropland.

Calculation Used

This measure is calculated by determining the number of acres of land units within conservation plans written in the fiscal year (a plan approval date within the fiscal year in which the performance is being reported), where the land use is cropland or hayland, and where at least one practice has been planned.

The land units on which the plans are written must only be counted once, unless a new plan approval date has be assigned to the plan, as a result of significant changes or revisions to the plan.

Conservation Program with Targets Set

Conservation Technical Assistance **(CTA-General)** – by policy, all conservation planning is to be completed through CTA.

Conservation plans for grazing land written, acres

Definition: Acres of grazing land (grazed forest, grazed range, native/naturalized pasture, or pasture) for which conservation plans were developed or significantly revised during the fiscal year to treat soil, water, air, plant, and animal resource concerns.

Grazing Land – All lands where livestock is grazed, including:

Grazed Forest - Forest land that yields understory vegetation that is used for the production of forage for grazing by livestock rather than for wood production products.
Grazed Range - Rangeland that is used primarily for the production of domestic livestock. Includes native plant communities and those seeded to native or introduced species, or naturalized by introduced species, that are ecologically managed using range management principles.
Native/Naturalized Pasture - Forest land that is used primarily for the production of forage for grazing by livestock rather than for the production of wood products. Overstory trees are removed or managed to promote the native and introduced understory vegetation occurring on the site. This vegetation is managed for its forage value through the use of grazing management principles. (National Range and Pasture Handbook, September 1997)
Pasture - Grazing lands composed of introduced or domesticated native forage species that are used primarily for the production of livestock. They receive periodic renovation and/or cultural treatments such as tillage, fertilization, mowing, or weed control. They can be irrigated. They are not in rotation with crops.

Purpose

This performance measure permits NRCS and its conservation partners to report for a fiscal year:

- the acres of grazing land on which the agency and its conservation partners provided assistance in developing or significantly revising a conservation plan,
- the number of customers, by race, gender, ethnicity, and disability, assisted on grazing land with conservation planning, and
- the conservation program(s) used in conservation planning of grazing land.

Calculation Used

This measure is calculated by determining the number of acres of land units within conservation plans written in the fiscal year (a plan approval date within the fiscal year in which the performance is being reported); where the land use is grazed forest, grazed range, native/naturalized pasture, or pasture; and where at least one practice has been planned.

The planned practice need not be scheduled to be applied within the fiscal year in which the plan is being claimed; only the plan approval date must be within the fiscal year in which the performance is being claimed.

The land units on which the plans are written must only be counted once, unless a new plan approval date has been assigned to the plan, as a result of significant changes or revisions to the plan.

Conservation Program with Targets Set

Conservation Technical Assistance **(CTA-GLC)** – by policy, all conservation planning is to be completed through CTA.

Grazing land with conservation applied to protect the resource base, acres

Definition: Acres of grazing land (grazed forest, grazed range, native/ naturalized pasture, or pasture) on which conservation practices have been applied during the fiscal year to treat soil, water, air, plant, and animal resource concerns. These acres include conservation plans applied to either the traditionally designated resource management system (RMS) level or to non-RMS levels.

Grazing Land – All lands where livestock is grazed, including:

Grazed Forest - Forest land that yields understory vegetation that is used for the production of forage for grazing by livestock rather than for wood production products.
Grazed Range - Rangeland that is used primarily for the production of domestic livestock. Includes native plant communities and those seeded to native or introduced species, or naturalized by introduced species, that are ecologically managed using range management principles.
Native/Naturalized Pasture - Forest land that is used primarily for the production of forage for grazing by livestock rather than for the production of wood products. Overstory trees are removed or managed to promote the native and introduced understory vegetation occurring on the site. This vegetation is managed for its forage value through the use of grazing management principles. (National Range and Pasture Handbook, September 1997)
Pasture - Grazing lands composed of introduced or domesticated native forage species that are used primarily for the production of livestock. They receive periodic renovation and/or cultural treatments such as tillage, fertilization, mowing, or weed control. They can be irrigated. They are not in rotation with crops.

Purpose

This performance measure permits NRCS and its conservation partners to report for a fiscal year:

- the acres of grazing land on which one or more conservation practices are applied within the fiscal year, by conservation program and across all programs,
- the number of customers assisted on grazing land with conservation application, and
- the conservation program(s) used to apply conservation practices on grazing land.

Calculation Used

Calculation for total acres (regardless of program)

This measure is calculated by determining the number of acres of land units within conservation plans where the land use is grazed forest, grazed range, native/naturalized pasture, or pasture, and where at least one practice has been applied on one or more of the land units having the required land use(s) within the current fiscal year. The plan need not have a "Plan Approval Date" within the current fiscal year.

Acres of land units where:

1 or more practices have practice application date >= 10/1/2004 and practice application date =< 9/30/2005,
and
Land use is grazed forest or grazed range or native/naturalized pasture or pasture.

Calculation of acres by conservation program

Only a single conservation program may be credited with applying a conservation practice. However, multiple practices can be applied on a land unit and each practice can be applied with a different program.

Therefore, the number of acres of grazing land with conservation practices applied summed over each individual conservation program may exceed the total number of acres of grazing land on which conservation practices are applied (independent of program).

Acres of unique land units where:

1 or more practices have practice application date >= 10/1/2004 and practice application date =< /30/2005,
and
Land use is grazed forest or grazed range or native/naturalized pasture or pasture,
and
Conservation program used to apply practices.

Note: There may be land units on which practices have been applied within a given fiscal year that were credited to multiple programs. The total for this measure is calculated as the sum of the unique acreage identified as resulting from the application of practices, and not the sum of the amount that is applied through each program individually. Using this latter method would lead to potential over-counting of acreage.

Conservation Programs with Targets Set

Conservation Technical Assistance **(CTA-GLC)**, Environmental Quality Incentives Program **(EQIP)**

Soil erosion reduced, tons

Definition: The reduction, in tons, of sediment resulting from soil erosion from all landuse types, including cropland, forestland, grazing land, and urban land.

Purpose

This performance measure permits NRCS and its conservation partners to report for each fiscal year:

- the number of tons of soil saved through measures applied to reduce sheet and rill and wind erosion on all land use types,
- the number of customers, by race, gender, ethnicity, and disability, assisted with sediment reduction on all land use types, and
- the conservation programs used to reduce soil erosion.

Calculation Used

For all practices associated with the resource concern of soil erosion, the calculation uses the Conservation System Guides estimate of before and after erosion rate and the percent System impact assumed for the practice reported.

Within Toolkit, a single program is associated with each individual conservation practice applied. Within a Conservation System Guide, a percentage share of the total system impact for each resource concern (sheet and rill erosion, and wind erosion) is assigned to each conservation practice. To calculate the amount of soil erosion reduction attributed to each program, the practice weight or percentage is multiplied by the system impact for each resource concern (sheet and rill erosion, and wind erosion), multiplied by the acres of the land unit, and then summed over the two resource concern categories and for the practices attributed to the program of interest.

Example

45 acres in land unit

Conservation System Guide Example

Contour Stripcropping is weighted as reducing the Soil Erosion – Sheet and Rill Resource Concern by 75% for the Conservation System Guide to which the practice is linked.

The System Impact for the Conservation System Guide is 8 T/A/Y (12 T/A/Y to 4 T/A/Y).

Contour Stripcropping is responsible for 75% of the system's reduction or impact.

45 acres X 8 tons/acre/year reduced (by the system) X 0.75 (weight assigned to contour strips) = 270 Tons

Conservation Programs with Targets Set

Conservation Technical Assistance **(CTA-General, CTA-GLC)**, Environmental Quality Incentives Program **(EQIP)**, Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program **(FRPP)**, and Conservation Reserve Program **(CRP)**.

Agricultural land actively managed for the protection and enhancement of habitat for species with declining populations, of these species, acres

Definition: Acres of land on which threatened, endangered or declining species is the primary resource concern and which is actively managed for the protection and enhancement

Purpose

To permit NRCS and its conservation partners to report, for a fiscal year,

- the acres of land actively managed for habitat where threatened, endangered, and declining species is the primary resource concern,
- the number of customers, by race, gender, ethnicity, and disability, assisted in wildlife habitat management, and
- the conservation program(s) used in actively managing the protection and enhancement of wildlife habitat.

Calculation Used

Calculation for total acres (regardless of program)

Sum of all acres in land units for which the associated conservation system (within a conservation system guide) has the primary resource concern identified as one of the following: Plant Condition – Threatened and Endangered Plant Species; Plant Condition – Declining Species, Species of Concern; Fish and Wildlife – Threatened and Endangered Fish and Wildlife Species; or Fish and Wildlife – Declining Species, Species of Concern. One or more conservation practices that are applied on the land unit having the primary resource concern identified above must have a practice application date within the current fiscal year.

Sum land unit areas where

land units have 1 or more practices applied
applied practices have applied date >= 10/1/2004 and =<9/30/2005, and
primary resource concern must equal Plant Condition – Threatened and Endangered Plant Species; Plant Condition – Declining Species, Species of Concern; Fish and Wildlife – Threatened and Endangered Fish and Wildlife Species; or Fish and Wildlife – Declining Species, Species of Concern.

Calculation of acres by conservation program

Multiple practices may be applied on a single land unit to address the primary resource concern (Plant Condition – Threatened and Endangered Plant Species; Plant Condition – Declining Species, Species of Concern; Fish and Wildlife – Threatened and Endangered Fish and Wildlife Species; or Fish and Wildlife – Declining Species, Species of Concern), and each practice can be applied by a different program. For this performance measure, each program that was used to apply a practice in the current fiscal year that addressed the primary resource concern will receive credit for all the acres in the land unit. Therefore, the number of acres treated summed over each individual conservation program may exceed the total number of acres treated. The total for this measure is calculated as the sum of the unique acreage identified as resulting from the application of practices, as described in the above “Calculation for total acres (regardless of program)”, and not the sum of the amount that is applied through each program individually.

Conservation Programs with Targets Set

Environmental Quality Incentives Program **(EQIP)**, Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program **(WHIP)**, and Grassland Reserve Program **(GRP)**.

Agricultural lands treated for which wildlife habitat is the primary or secondary resource concern, acres

Definition: Acres on which wildlife habitat management practices have been applied in the fiscal year, where wildlife habitat management is the primary or secondary resource concern.

Purpose

This performance measure permits NRCS and its conservation partners to report for a fiscal year:

- the total number of acres managed for wildlife ,
- the total number of customers, by race, gender, ethnicity, and disability, assisted with wildlife habitat management, and
- the conservation programs used in treating agricultural land for wildlife habitat.

Calculation Used

Calculation for total acres (regardless of program)

This measure is the sum of the acreage of wildlife habitat management completed within the current fiscal year, and includes the acreage completed by RC&D and by other conservation programs. With the exception of RC&D, this will be measured by adding together the acreage applied for Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644) or for Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645).

RC&D reporting does not have associated NRCS practices. Acreage of RC&D projects where wildlife habitat has been identified as a primary resource concern will be collected through the RC&D Wildlife Projects data entry screen in the Field Level Measures section of the PRS Date Entry website.

To calculate total acres, sum:
A) RC&D acres, and
B) Acres where practice code equals 644 and the application date >= 10/1/2004 or =< 9/30/2005, and
C) Acres where practice code equals 645 and the application date >= 10/1/2004 or =< 9/30/2005.

Calculation of acres by conservation program

For each program, with the exception of RC&D, this will be measured by adding together the acreage applied for Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644) or for Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645) using the funding program during the current fiscal year.

RC&D reporting does not have associated NRCS practices. Acreage of RC&D projects where wildlife habitat has been identified as a primary resource concern will be collected through the RC&D Wildlife Projects data entry screen in the Field Level Measures section of the PRS Date Entry website.

RC&D:
Sum of acres entered through the RC&D Wildlife Projects data entry screen in the Field Level Measures section of the PRS Date Entry website.

Other conservation programs:
Sum acres where the funding program has applied:
0. Acres with practice code equals 644 and the application date >= 10/1/2004 or =< 9/30/2005, and
0. Acres with practice code equals 645 and the application date >= 10/1/2004 or =< 9/30/2005.

Conservation Programs with Targets Set Conservation Technical Assistance **(CTA-General, CTA-GLC)**, Conservation Reserve Program **(CRP)**, and Resource Conservation and Development **(RC&D)**.

Comprehensive nutrient management plans (CNMP) applied, number

Definition: The number of comprehensive nutrient management plans (CNMPs) applied. A CNMP (conservation plan for an animal feeding operation) is a grouping of conservation practices and management activities that, when implemented as part of a conservation system, help ensure that production and natural resource protection goals are achieved.

Purpose

This performance measure permits NRCS and its conservation partners to report for a fiscal year:

- the number of comprehensive nutrient management plans applied,
- the number of customers assisted with comprehensive nutrient management plans and assisted with the application of nutrient management for agronomic use of manure, and
- the conservation programs used to apply the CNMP.

Calculation Used

For PRS2005, CNMP plans are now indicated by using the CNMP code 100, which is available from the practice list within PRS, CST and Protracts. When a system of practices are planned that collectively meet the definition for a CNMP plan, then the CNMP code 100 should be selected within CST or PRS, as necessary. After planning the CNMP, it should be reported in PRS as planned, just as any practice is reported as planned. CNMP code 100 can also be a contracted item within Protracts.

Within PRS, users should report CNMP plans as applied, using CNMP code 100, after Nutrient Management (590) has been applied. If the CNMP plan does not include practice 590 then PRS users should report it as applied after one of the following practices are installed: Anaerobic Digester, Ambient Temperature (365), Anaerobic Digester, Controlled Temperature (366), Manure Transfer (634), Waste Facility Cover (367), Waste Storage facility (313), Waste Treatment Lagoon (359), Waste Utilization (633) or Wastewater Treatment Strip (635).

Example

Field staff has assisted a landowner in planning a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan to manage poultry litter from an animal feeding operation. The plan includes a waste storage facility (313), nutrient management (590) on 160 acres, and 75 feet of conservation buffer below the production area. Completion of the CNMP will also complete the Resource Management System Level conservation plan that covers the land unit (240 acres). The Resource Management System Level conservation plan is intended to improve wildlife habitat, water quality, and forage resources. An erosion concern does not exist. If there were an erosion problem, conservation planning policy would require that it would be written to a sustainable level, as part of a Resource Management System level conervation plan.

What will be extracted?

In this example, several things can be extracted:

- CNMP applied – one CNMP is reported as applied when the nutrient management (590) has been reported as applied, according to NRCS standards and specifications.
- Waste Management applied – one waste storage facility (313) is reported when applied.
- Nutrient Management applied – 160 acres of nutrient management (590) is reported when the practice is first applied. Recurring practices, such as nutrient management, generally are not reporting in the following years, unless significant revision has occurred.
- Conservation Buffers applied – 75 feet of riparian forest buffer is reported when applied.
- Customers assisted, by race, gender, ethnicity, and disability

Conservation Programs with Targets Set

Conservation Technical Assistance **(CTA-General and CTA-GLC)**, Environmental Quality Incentives Program **(EQIP)**

Comprehensive nutrient management plans (CNMP) written, number

Definition: The number of comprehensive nutrient management plans (CNMPs) written within the current fiscal year. A CNMP (conservation plan for an animal feeding operation) is a grouping of conservation practices and management activities that, when implemented as part of a conservation system, help ensure that production and natural resource protection goals are achieved.

Purpose

This performance measure permits NRCS and its conservation partners to report for a fiscal year:

- the number of comprehensive nutrient management plans written,
- the number of customers assisted with comprehensive nutrient management plans and with the planned application of nutrient management for agronomic use of manure.
- the conservation programs used to plan the CNMP.

Calculation Used

Calculation of total CNMP written

The number of plans, designated as CNMP plans within PRS, which have a plan approval date within the current fiscal year and have one or more conservation practices planned. The planned practices are not required to be one of the practices required for a plan to be considered as a CNMP applied. The CNMP written can be counted once, unless a new plan approval date has been assigned to the overall conservation plan, as a result of significant changes or revisions to the conservation plan.

Calculation by conservation program

The National Conservation Planning Database does not currently contain a field to designate the funding program used to plan a practice (such as for CNMP Code 100). In order to assign the funding program for each CNMP written, use the CNMP written screen in the Field Level Measures section on the PRS Data Entry website.

For each program, PRS will count the number of CNMP written with that funding program identified on the PRS Data Entry website. A CNMP written with time charged to CTA using the Conservation Planning activity code should be reported as progress for CTA-General or CTA-GLC in PRS. A CNMP written using EQIP technical assistance with the time charged to the Contract Planning activity code should be reported as progress for EQIP in PRS.

Conservation Programs with Targets Set

Conservation Technical Assistance **(CTA-General and CTA-GLC)**, Environmental Quality Incentives Program **(EQIP)**

Watershed or area-wide conservation plans developed for water or air quality, number and acres

Definition: The number and acres of finalized (see business rules below) watershed-level or areawide plans that include specific, measurable conservation goals and milestones for water or air quality impacts.

These plans cover an area comprised of multiple land ownerships with common and interdependent natural resource concerns, such as in a watershed. The acreage of these plans will generally vary from several tens of thousands of acres to 300,000 acres. The plans are prepared and implemented in cooperation with one or more local governments and land owner representatives from the planning area.

Purpose

This performance measure allows NRCS to report the acreage covered by watershed and area-wide plans that include specific, measurable conservation goals and milestones for water or air quality impacts; as well as the number of these plans that have been approved.

Conservation implementation is achieved through the planning and application of on-farm individual practices on individual land units, in the context of the resource objectives of the overall planning area.

Calculation Used

For CTA-General, CTA-GLC, and RC&D

Number: Sum of the total number of distinct watershed or area-wide resource plans developed for water or air quality that have been approved in the fiscal year.

Acres: Acres are calculated as the sum of acres contained in each distinct watershed or area-wide resource plans developed for water or air quality that has been approved in the fiscal year.

For PL-06

Number: Count of the number of watershed and area-wide resource plans that have an "Actual Completion Date" in the current fiscal year, and for which "Water Quality" is the indicated resource concern.

Acres: Sum the acres contained in watershed or area-wide resource plans that have an "Actual Completion Date" in the current fiscal year, and for which "Water Quality (acres)" is the indicated resource concern.

Total

Number: Sum the number of plans approved by CTA-General, CTA-GLC, RC&D and PL-06.

Acres: Sum the acres of plans approved by CTA-General, CTA-GLC, RC&D and PL-06.

Conservation Programs with Targets Set

Conservation Technical Assistance **(CTA and CTA-GLC)**; Watershed Survey and Planning **(PL-06)**; Resource Conservation and Development Program **(RC&D)**.

Wetlands created, restored, or enhanced, acres

Definition: Acres of wetlands creation (658), wetlands restoration (657), and wetlands enhancement (659) applied.

Purpose

This performance measure permits NRCS and its conservation partners to report for a fiscal year wetlands created, restored or enhanced.

Wetlands created (658): A wetland that has been created on a site location which historically was not a wetland or is a wetland but the site will be converted to a wetland with a different hydrology, vegetation type, or function than naturally occurred on the site.

Wetlands restored (657): A rehabilitation of a drained or degraded wetland where the soils, hydrology, vegetative community, and biological habitat are returned to the natural condition to the extent practicable.

Wetlands enhanced (659): The modification or rehabilitation of an existing or degraded wetland, where specific functions and/or values are modified for the purpose of meeting specific project objectives. Some functions may remain unchanged while others may be degraded.

Calculation Used

Sum of the acres of practices Wetland Creation (658), Wetland Restoration (657), and Wetland Enhanced (659) that have a practice application date within the current fiscal year.

Conservation Programs with Targets Set

Conservation Technical Assistance **(CTA and CTA-GLC)**; Wetland Reserve Program **(WRP)**, Conservation Reserve Program **(CRP)**

Irrigation efficiency improved, acre feet

Definition: Acre-feet of water used more efficiently through conservation practices applied on irrigated land.

Purpose

This performance measure permits NRCS and its conservation partners to report for each fiscal year:

- the volume of water conserved through measures applied to reduce the acre feet of water applied to cropland.

Calculation Used

For practices with an application date in the current fiscal year, multiply the System Impact percentage assigned to the conservation practice being reported for "Water Quantity – Inefficient Water Use on Irrigated Land" times the system impact times the acres in the land unit.

Conservation Programs with Targets Set

Conservation Technical Assistance **(CTA-General or CTA-GLC)**; Environmental Quality Incentives Program **(EQIP)**.

Watershed or area-wide resource plans, studies, or inventories for flood prevention or mitigation, number

Definition: The number of finalized watershed-level or area-wide resource plans, studies, or inventories for which flood prevention or mitigation is the primary objective.

These plans cover an area comprised of multiple land ownerships with common and interdependent natural resource concerns, such as in a watershed. The plans are prepared and implemented in cooperation with one or more local governments and land owner representatives from the planning area.

Purpose

This performance measure allows NRCS and its conservation partners to report the number of finalized watershed-level or area-wide resource plans, studies or inventories for which flood prevention or mitigation is the primary objective.

Calculation Used

For CTA-General and CTA-GLC

Sum of the total number of distinct watershed and area-wide resource plans, studies or inventories for flood prevention or mitigation that have been approved in the fiscal year.

For PL-06

Count of the number of watershed and area-wide resource plans, studies or inventories that have an "Actual Completion Date" in the current fiscal year, and for which "Flood Prevention or Mitigation" is the indicated resource concern.

Total

Sum the plans approved by CTA-General and CTA-GLC and PL-06.

Conservation Programs with Targets Set

Conservation Technical Assistance **(CTA-General and CTA-GLC)**, Watershed Surveys and Planning **(PL-06)**.

Watershed or area-wide resource plans, studies or inventories for water conservation or water supply, number

Definition: The number and acres of finalized watershed-level or area-wide resource plans, studies, or inventories for which water conservation or water supply is the primary objective.

These plans cover an area comprised of multiple land ownerships with common and interdependent natural resource concerns, such as in a watershed. The plans are prepared and implemented in cooperation with one or more local governments and land owner representatives from the planning area.

Purpose

This performance measure allows NRCS and its conservation partners to report the number of watershed and area-wide resource plans, studies or inventories for which water conservation and water supply are the primary objective.

Calculation Used

For CTA-General and CTA-GLC

Sum of the total number of distinct watershed and area-wide resource plans, studies or inventories for water conservation or water supply that have been approved in the fiscal year.

For PL-06

Count of the number of watershed and area-wide resource plans, studies or inventories that have an "Actual Completion Date" in the current fiscal year, and for which "Water Conservation or Water Supply" is the indicated resource concern.

Total

Sum the plans approved by CTA-General and CTA-GLC and PL-06.

Conservation Programs With Targets Set

Conservation Technical Assistance **(CTA-General and CTA-GLC)**, Watershed Surveys and Planning **(PL-06)**.

Reduction in the acreage of cropland soils damaged by erosion (erosion to T or below), acres

Definition: Acres of cropland, including hayland, that were eroding above "T" prior to the application of conservation practices or land treatments, and are eroding at or below "T" after application.

Purpose

This performance measure permits NRCS and its conservation partners to report for each fiscal year:

- the number of acres of cropland, including hayland, treated that resulted in sheet and rill and wind erosion being reduced to the threshold value for the soil resource concern (Tolerable or "T" value),
- the number of customers assisted on cropland and hayland with erosion reduction, and
- the conservation program(s) used to reduce soil erosion on cropland.

Calculation Used

Calculation for total acres (regardless of program)

Sum of land unit acreage where one or more conservation practices have been applied within the current fiscal year on cropland that reduce the soil loss by sheet and rill erosion or wind erosion from greater than T to T or less on the entire land unit.

A. For land units with acres eroding above T in their current condition (within the fiscal year),
B. Sum the practice acres where the practice is:
reported as applied,
has an applied date in the current fiscal year,
the land unit land use is cropland or hayland,
the CSG for the land unit has impacts for the applied practice for the resource concern: "sheet and rill erosion", or "wind erosion"
C. Sum acres where the tons/acre/year impact for sheet and rill for all reported applied practices is less than or = system threshold system impact.

Calculation of acres by conservation program

Multiple practices may be required to reduce erosion on a land unit to T or below, and each practice can be applied by a different program. For this performance measure, each program that was used to apply a practice in the current fiscal year that contributed to reducing erosion on the land unit to T or below will receive credit for all the acres in the land unit. Therefore, the number of acres with erosion reduced to T or below summed over each individual conservation program may exceed the total number of acres with erosion reduced to T or below (independent of program). The total for this measure is calculated as the sum of the unique acreage identified as resulting from the application of practices, as described in the above "Calculation for total acres (regardless of program)", and not the sum of the amount that is applied through each program individually.

Example

120 acres of cropland receiving conservation treatment to below "T" for the soil resource.

The threshold value for the soils in the treated land area is 4 tons/acre/year

The Conservation System Guide Impact is 12 T/A/Y for sheet and rill (16 T/A/Y baseline to 4 T/A/Y effect)

Cropland terraces are responsible for 80% of that reduction.

Conservation cropping rotation is responsible for 20% of that reduction.

Prior to practice application, 120 acres of cropland were eroding at 16 T/A/Y – the baseline condition.

Cropland Terraces are applied and erosion rate is reduced by 10 T/A/Y, to 6 T/A/Y.

Note: If only terraces are applied, no credit is accrued for “Reduction in the acreage of cropland soils damaged by erosion”. The land area being treated is still eroding above the threshold value.

Conservation cropping rotation is also reported as applied in the system, and the erosion rate is reduced by 2 T/A/Y, from the new baseline of 6 T/A/Y to 4 T/A/Y.

If the above two practices were applied separately, and reported in two different fiscal years, the acres of the land area treated will not be credited to this performance measure until the fiscal year in which the erosion rate falls to or below the threshold value.

The tons saved are credited to the “Soil Erosion Reduced” performance measure when each practice is applied. The “Reduction in the acreage of cropland soils damaged by erosion” acres only are reported when the erosion is reduced to the threshold value (“T”) or below.

Conservation Programs with Targets Set

Conservation Technical Assistance **(CTA-General)**, Environmental Quality Incentives Program **(EQIP)**, and Conservation Reserve Program **(CRP)**